

Navajo Abandoned Uranium Mine

Site Screen Report

This form is for use at the site of abandoned uranium mines (AUM) located on Navajo Nation lands. Applicable sites include all mine and mine features that have or have not undergone reclamation by the Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program, including features, adits, pits and waste piles. Applicable sites also include all AUM sites listed in the USEPA CERCLIS database, all sites listed in the 2008 AUM GIS Report issued by USACOE and USEPA, all AUM sites on allotment lands associated with the Navajo Nation, and any and all AUM sites not listed in any database located on Navajo lands. Reconnaissance of any sites located on lands adjacent to Navajo lands that may be impacting Navajo lands will need to be coordinated with the authorities appropriate to those lands.

The purpose of the form is to ascertain the status and location of the identified AUM site, and record all immediate site information associated with the mine site. Decisions and recommendations on what additional steps are needed will be provided on a separate document.

Mine Name: Claim 28

Mine IDs: 78, 79

Navajo AUM Central Region

Prepared by:

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Contract: W91238-06-F-0083

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Part I Site Identification, Location and Status**Site Names and ID numbers as applicable****Mine ID:** 78; 79**Map ID:** 78: C19
79: C18**CERCLIS:** NNN000909179**Navajo Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program:** NA-0701**Local name / Aliases:** Claim No. 28; Charlie James No. 1; Claim #28; West Burnt Corn Wash**Chapter and local area:** Black Mesa**County:** Apache **State:** Arizona**Lat/Long:** 78: 36.245135662 N / -109.891852881 W
79: 36.2432081867 N / -109.894169193 W**Nearby road and highway:** Route 29 **Local Post Office:** Blue Gap, AZ**Surface Land Status: check one or more and provide ownership and contact information below****Tribal Trust Land** ☒
Private ☐
Bureau of Land Mgmt ☐
State ☐**Public lands** ☐
Tribal Fee Land ☐
Allotment ☐
Fee land ☐**Subsurface Mineral Rights:**

No information on subsurface mineral rights ownership was found in the EPA/AUM Database.

Claim and operator information:

The mine surface land status is classified as Tribal Trust Land. Historical documents identified the operator of the mine as Ampet Corporation from 1957 to 1958, and Pioneer Drilling Company from 1966 to 1968. No additional historical ownership / lease information was identified in the EPA / AUM database.

Number of residential structures within 200 feet of mine: None

Part II Summary of Radiological Readings

Mine ID: 78

Highest gamma radiation measurement: 132,382 counts per minute (cpm)

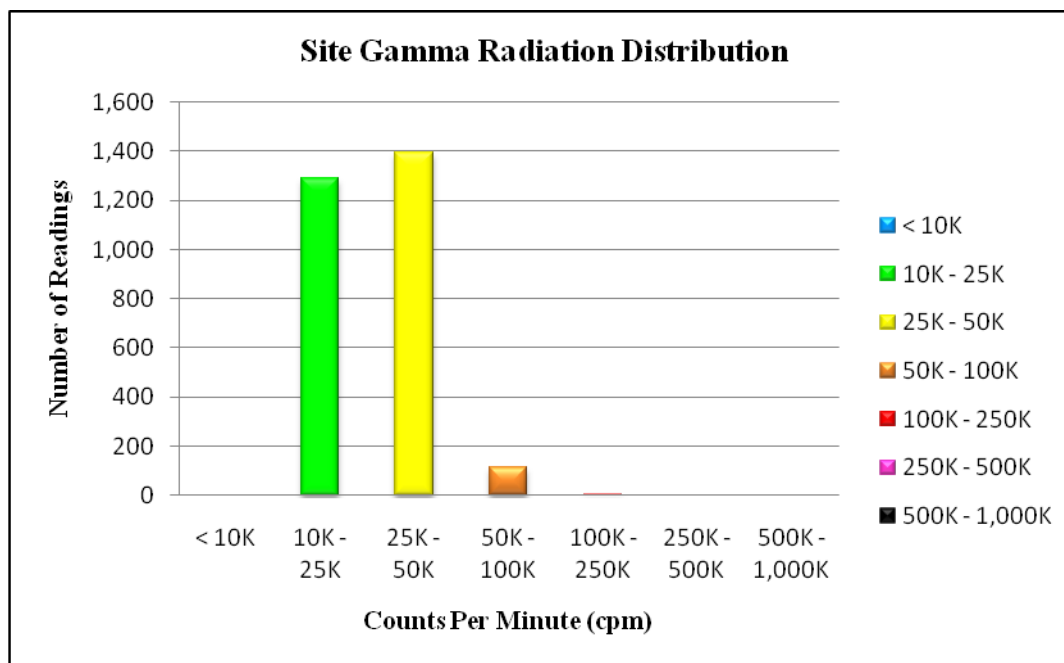
Background Average: 14,688 cpm **Two Times Background:** 29,376 cpm

Describe any other radiological measurements:

A total of 2,796 gamma radiation measurements were collected from the mine site, ranging from 12,843 cpm to 132,382 cpm. Measurements collected in the vicinity of the waste rock were found at a maximum level of approximately 130,000 cpm, the reclamation areas of approximately 20,000 cpm, and the workings of approximately 25,000 cpm. The measurements are represented in Figures 1 and 2.

Distribution Chart and Statistics:

Site Gamma Radiation Statistics	
Number of Readings	2,796
Minimum (cpm)	12,843
Maximum (cpm)	132,382
Mean (cpm)	28,533
Median (cpm)	25,943
Standard Deviation	10,503

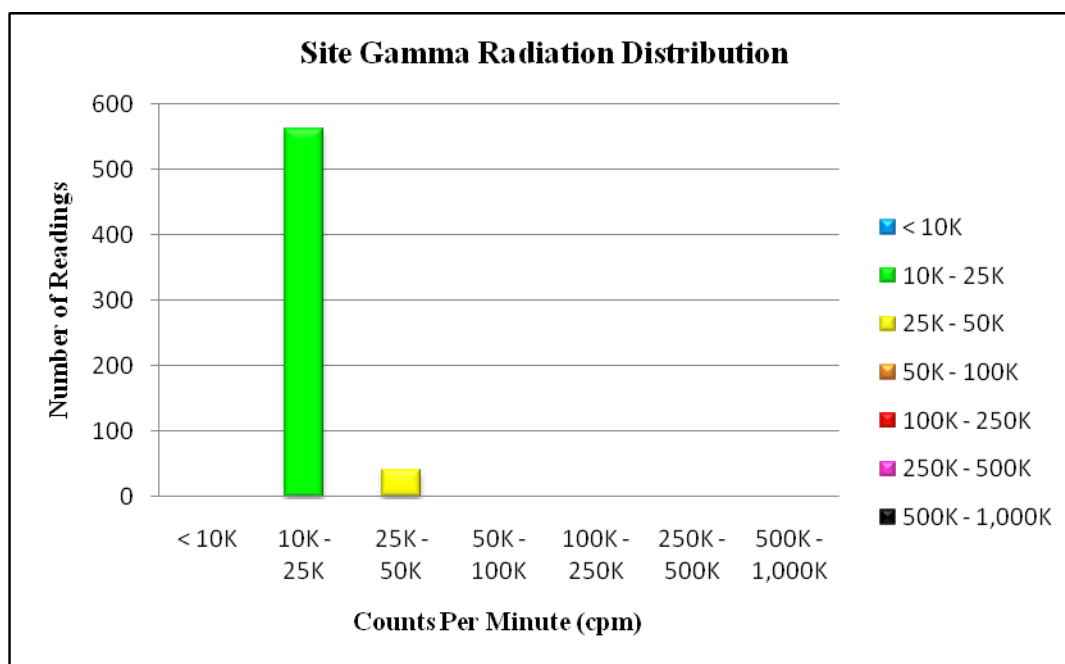


Mine ID: 79**Highest gamma radiation measurement:** 36,695 counts per minute (cpm)**Background Average:** 13,355 cpm**Two Times Background:** 26,710 cpm**Describe any other radiological measurements:**

A total of 603 gamma radiation measurements were collected from the mine site, ranging from 14,340 cpm to 36,695 cpm. Measurements collected in the vicinity of the fenced area were found at a maximum level of approximately 35,000 cpm. The measurements are represented in Figures 1 and 2.

Distribution Chart and Statistics:

Site Gamma Radiation Statistics	
Number of Readings	603
Minimum (cpm)	14,340
Maximum (cpm)	36,695
Mean (cpm)	21,028
Median (cpm)	20,893
Standard Deviation	2,830



Part III Status of Reclamation and Mine Waste

Mine ID: 78

The following information was obtained from the Navajo Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program (NAMLRP) Point Features Database:

NAMLRP Status of the mine site: Reclaimed: Yes

Waste Pile onsite: Yes

NAMLRP Project Number: NA-0701

NAMLRP Mine features: 1 Rim Strip / Pit

The following information was obtained from field observations collected during the 2011 site screening:

Provide description and status of all mine sites, and features at site. Include all waste piles, adits, pits and other features, and indicate whether they are open, closed, covered, capped, buried or unreclaimed. Indicate approximate size, shape and extent, including description of any reclamation caps. Note condition of all caps.

Observed reclamation work and status:

Adits:

Potential adit, covered by rock

Waste Piles:

Waste rock throughout slope/bench area, and below adit

Pits:

None observed

Shafts:

None observed

Other Debris and Mine Features:

Reclamation area atop mesa; worked areas throughout site

Mine ID: 79

The following information was obtained from the Navajo Abandoned Mine Land

Reclamation Program (NAMLRP) Point Features Database:

NAMLRP Status of the mine site: Reclaimed: Yes

Waste Pile onsite: No

NAMLRP Project Number: NA-0701

NAMLRP Mine features: 1 Waste Pile

The following information was obtained from field observations collected during the 2011 site screening:

Provide description and status of all mine sites, and features at site. Include all waste piles, adits, pits and other features, and indicate whether they are open, closed, covered, capped, buried or unreclaimed. Indicate approximate size, shape and extent, including description of any reclamation caps. Note condition of all caps.

Observed reclamation work and status:

Adits:

None observed

Waste Piles:

None observed

Pits:

None observed

Shafts:

None observed

Other Debris and Mine Features:

Fenced area with possible reclamation cap

Part IV Site Observations and Environs

Observed Residential Structures (number and human habitation status of structures at the following distances from mine):

0 to 200 feet: None observed

200 feet to 0.25 mile: Housing compound with 3 structures 0.15 mi SW of site #79

Observed Public or Commercial structures (schools, clinics, Chapter Houses, places of business and any other structure used by members of the community at the following distances from the mine):

0 to 200 feet: None observed

200 feet to 0.25 mile: None observed

Levels measured around the perimeter(s) of the identified structure(s):

Background Levels

Observed water sources (number and type of wells and surface water sources that are potentially used for human consumption at the following distances from the mine):

0 to 0.25 miles: Residential pond approximately 0.25 mi SW of site #79, and 0.35 mi SW of site #78

0.25 miles to 4 miles: None observed

Sensitive Environments (all sensitive environments located within visible range of the mine site, including: wetlands, endangered species, habitats and approximate locations of sites that may be under protection of the government of the Navajo Nation):

None observed

Known Site History (information from interviews with Chapter officials and residents and database review, includes: mine ownership, type of mining operation, period of operation, known amount of production, and any other information provided):

The Claim 28 mine claim consists of two separate mine sites (#'s 78, 79) with a total combined area of 62,217.77 m². The mine was identified operational from 1957 to 1968. While operational, the mine had a total reported production volume of 4,181 tons. The mine surface land status is classified as Tribal Trust Land. Historical documents identified the operator of the mine as Ampet Corporation from 1957 to 1958, and Pioneer Drilling Company from 1966 to 1968. No additional historical ownership / lease information was identified in the EPA / AUM database.

Part V Response Action Summary

Summary of Evaluation Factors:

Accessibility:

Was the mine easily accessible to potential human activity?

Yes

Radiological Measurements:

Were any gamma radiation measurements collected at the mine greater than two times the site-specific background levels?

Yes

Waste Piles:

Were any unreclaimed waste piles observed at the mine with gamma radiation measurements greater than two times the site-specific background levels?

Yes

Structures:

Were any structures observed within 200 feet of the mine?

No

Potential Drinking Water Sources:

Were any potential drinking water sources observed within 4 miles of the mine?

Yes

Reclamation:

Was the mine reported to be previously reclaimed, or did the mine appear to be reclaimed?

Yes

Part VI Photos



Photo 1: Mine Site #78; Potential adit with waste rock



Photo 2: Mine Site #78; Potential adit with waste rock



Photo 3: Mine Site #78; Top of mine



Photo 4: Mine Site #78; Eroded slope and waste piles



Photo 5: Mine Site #78; Eroded slope and waste piles



Photo 6: Mine Site #79; Fenced area



Photo 7: Mine Site #79; Fenced area

Part VII Contacts Reports and Information

Name: Eugene Esplain

Title or official role (if any): Navajo EPA Superfund Program

Telephone number: (928) 871-7331

Address: PO Box 2946, Window Rock, AZ 86515

Information provided: Lead Regulatory Agency

Name: _____

Title or official role (if any): _____

Telephone number: _____

Address: _____

Information provided: _____

Name: _____

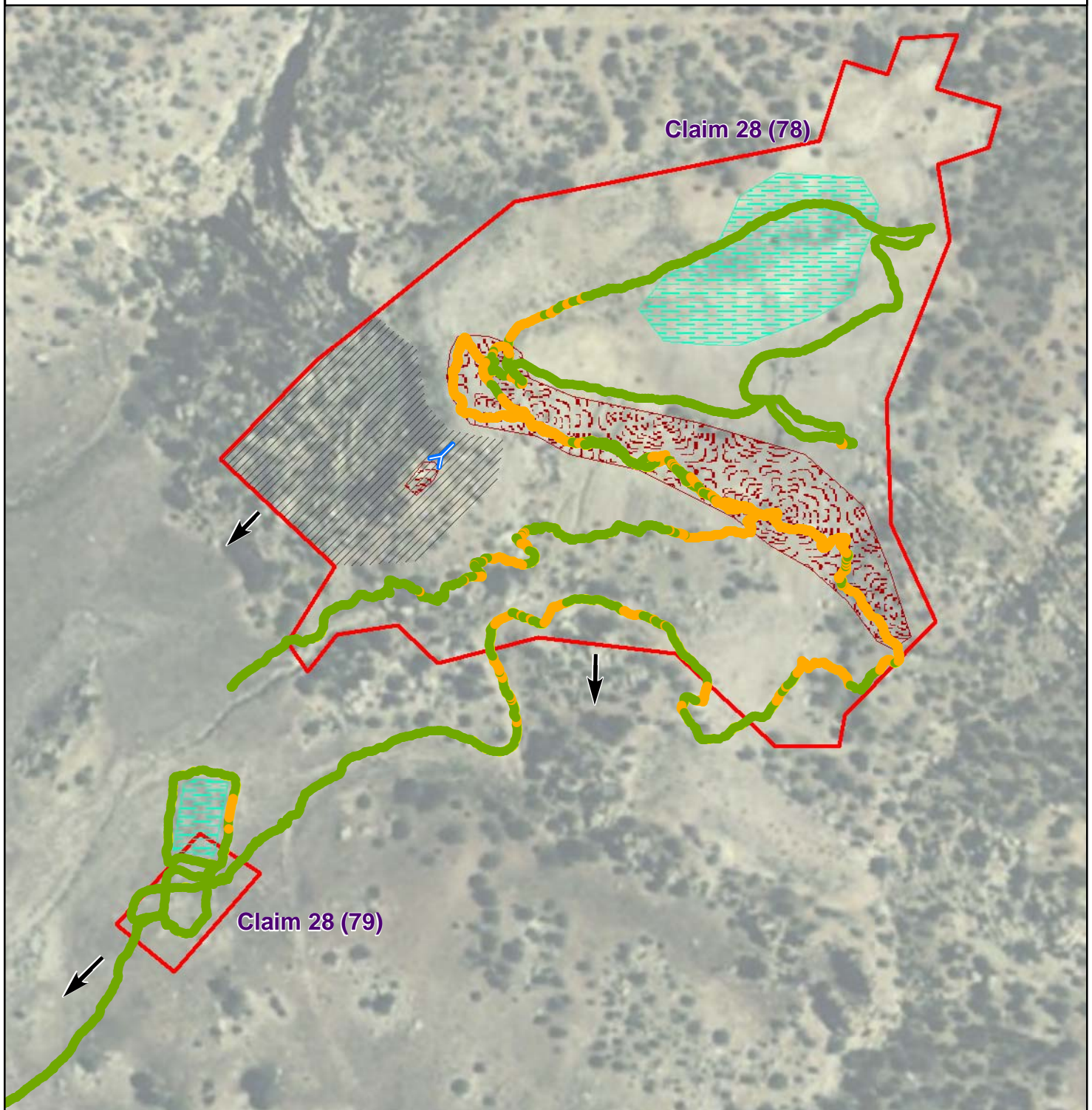
Title or official role (if any): _____

Telephone number: _____

Address: _____

Information provided: _____

**Figure 1 - Gamma Radiation Measurements, Above Two Times Background
Claim 28 (78, 79)
Black Mesa Chapter, Navajo Nation**



Legend

Gamma Radiation Measurements

- < 2X Background
- > 2X Background

Measured as counts per minute (cpm)

Average background 14,022 cpm

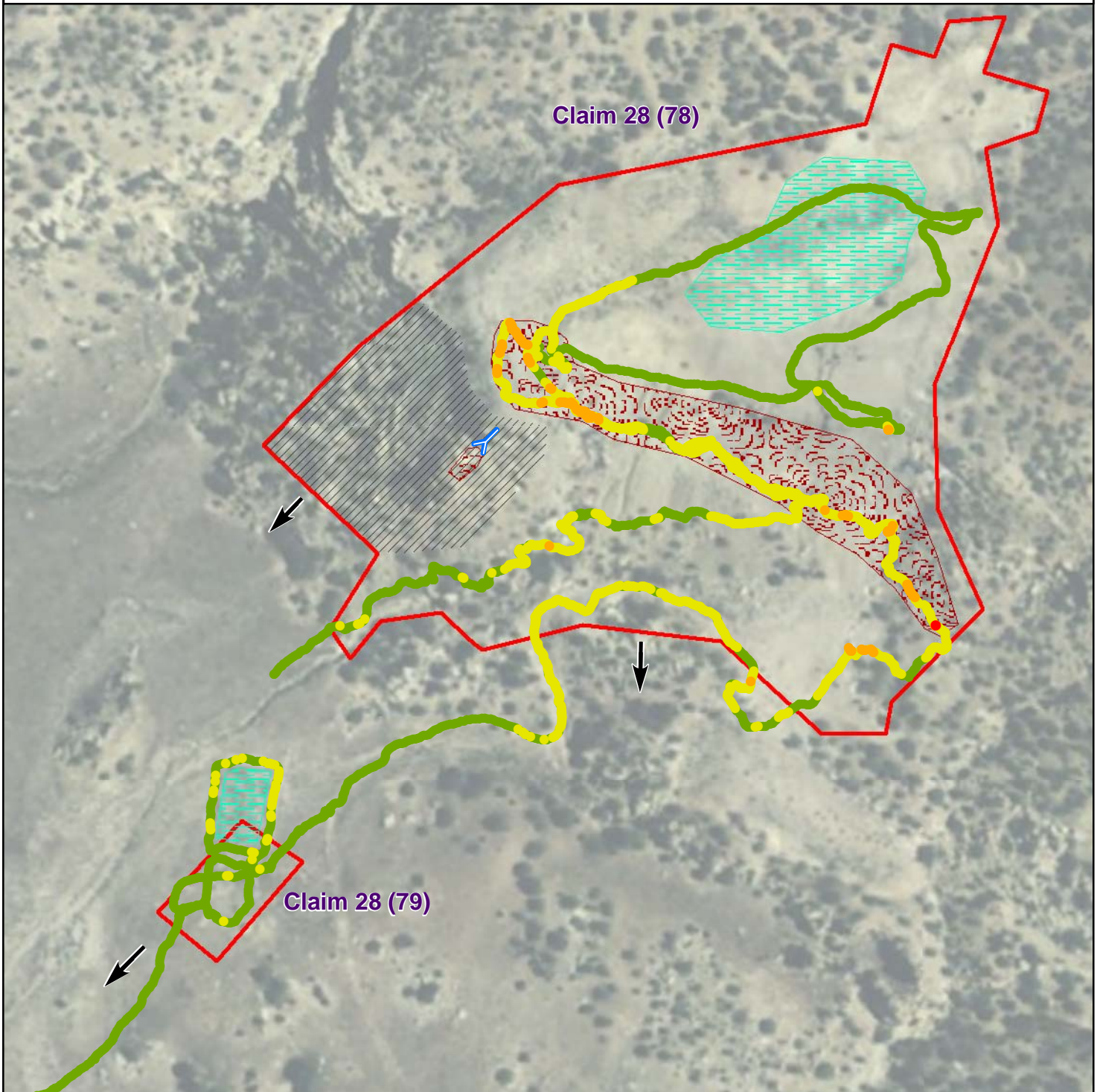
- Mine Site Boundary
- General Slope Direction
- Observed Reclamation Feature
- Observed Waste Pile
- Observed Structure
- Steep Grade
- Observed Adit



0 250 Feet



Figure 2 - Gamma Radiation Measurements
Claim 28 (78, 79)
Black Mesa Chapter, Navajo Nation



Gamma Radiation Measurements

- 0 - 10,000 cpm
- 10,000 - 25,000 cpm
- 25,000 - 50,000 cpm
- 50,000 - 100,000 cpm
- 100,000 - 250,000 cpm
- 250,000 - 500,000 cpm
- 500,000 - 1,000,000 cpm

- Mine Site Boundary
- General Slope Direction
- Observed Reclamation Feature
- Observed Waste Pile
- Observed Structure
- Steep Grade
- Observed Adit



Measured as counts per minute (cpm) Average background 14,022 cpm